



# USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

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## NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



In New York and Chicago, prices were unchanged. Elsewhere, prices were lower on the larger sizes and unchanged to lower on the lighter weight eggs. The market tone was unsettled and ranged cautiously steady to barely steady entering the holiday week. Demand into all outlets was light to good, best where limited features were a factor. Supplies were generally adequate to available for current trade needs. Breaking stock supplies were fully adequate to ample for the light to fair demand. Spent hen offerings were at least adequate for reduced processing schedules.

- **Effective January 2, 2003, prices delivered to retailers warehouse or store door in Boston (Brown), Philadelphia, Atlanta, Jackson, Major Louisiana Cities, Detroit, Major Ohio Cities and Major Wisconsin Cities will no longer be issued. Northeast, Midwest, Southeast and South Central regional prices will be issued instead and will be reported as "prices delivered to retailers warehouse and volume buyers, USDA Grade A and Grade A, white eggs in cartons, cents per dozen." Prices and comments will appear on the report daily. Prices into Chicago, New York and Southern California delivered store door will continue to be reported.**

**NORTH ATLANTIC** Prices in Philadelphia were unchanged to 5 cents lower on the larger sizes and unchanged to 2.5 cents lower on mediums; prices in Boston were unchanged to 5 cents lower on the larger sizes and unchanged on mediums, when based on previous week average pricing. In New England, prices were unchanged. The market tone entering the holiday week was unsettled and ranged cautiously steady to barely steady. Demand into all channels was light to instances good. Supplies were adequate to available for current trade needs. Breaking stock demand was fair for sufficient supplies. Light type hens were at least adequate for reduced processing schedules.

**MIDWEST** Prices 3 cents lower on the larger sizes and unchanged on mediums into all areas. Producer prices into Iowa-Minnesota-Wisconsin were unchanged. Trade sentiment was cautiously steady. Cartoned egg demand was in a full range, light to good depending on location. Food service movement was generally moderate. Supplies were mixed, close balance to available. Central states breaking stock and checks and undergrades prices were unchanged. Offerings continued fully adequate to ample for the limited demand. Existing inventories, company owned production and regular commitments easily satisfy most breaker needs. Schedules reduced for this week. Floor stocks fully adequate to ample. Trade sentiment cautiously steady to instances weak.

**SOUTHERN** In Atlanta, prices were lower on extra large and large and unchanged to lower on mediums. In Florida, prices were lower on the larger sizes and unchanged on the balance. Trade sentiment was unsettled, usually cautiously steady to barely steady. Demand was light to moderate. Supplies were sufficient for trade needs. The average price on Grade A or better white cartoned large eggs delivered to volume buyers in the Southern region for the week ending December 27, 2002 was 70.40 cents, which was 1.35 cents more than a week earlier and 9.42 cents more than last year. Breaking stock supplies were sufficient for the light demand. Breaking schedules were reduced for this week. Light type fowl were at least adequate for the no better than fair demand. Processing schedules were less than normal due to the upcoming holiday.

**CHICAGO** Prices for all sizes unchanged. The trade sentiment was steady to barely steady. Retail and food service demand was light to moderate, instances good. Best movement where features are planned or in progress. Supplies adequate.

**WESTERN** Prices 3 cents lower on jumbo, extra large, and large, unchanged on medium throughout the region. The Pacific region inventory was 2% higher than last Monday with California down 2% and Oregon-Washington-Utah up 10%. Retailer demand moderate. Offerings generally adequate.

**NEW YORK** Prices were unchanged on all sizes entering the week. The market tone was cautiously steady. Demand ranged light to moderate. Supplies were adequate for current trade requirements.

**PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, GRADE A AND US GRADE A WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DLVRD STORE DOOR OR WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DZ.**

**NOTE: Effective January 2, 2003, this report will no longer be issued due to a change in egg price reporting procedures.**

NORTHEAST CITIES	EX LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM
Boston (Brown)	117-119	108-110	75-77
New York	71-75	69-73	53-57
Philadelphia	69-74	68-72	52-55
SOUTHERN CITIES			
Atlanta (1) (2)	61-66.5	59-62.5	44-47
Jackson (1)	74-76	72-74	54-56
Major Louisiana Cities (1)	69-79	67-77	51-62
MIDWEST CITIES			
Chicago	59-63	57-61	42-46
Detroit (2)	55-60	54-59	39-46
Major Ohio Cities (2)	57-61	56-59	41-44
Major Wisconsin Cities	58-65	57-62	42-46
WESTERN CITIES			
Houston (1)	77-79	75-77	58-61
California (Grade AA)(1)(3)	96	91	77
(1) - Prices reported weekly		(2) - Delivered Warehouse	
(3) - Reported Invoice prices			

**CALIFORNIA** Prices 3 cents lower on jumbo, extra large and large, unchanged on medium and small. The California inventory was 2% lower than last Monday. Retailer demand moderate. Offerings generally adequate. Small benchmark price 57. Ads in Northern California: major - large 18 pack buy 1 get 1 free.

California Egg Marketing Association and other marketers benchmark price for negotiated egg sales of USDA Grade AA and Grade AA in cartons, cents per dozen. This price does not reflect discounts or other contract terms.

	RANGE
JUMBO	99
EXTRA LARGE	96
LARGE	91
MEDIUM	77

**PRICES TO CONSUMERS MAJOR CHAINS, METROPOLITAN AREA, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.**

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA	RANGE	NORTHERN CALIFORNIA	RANGE
JUMBO	239-299	JUMBO	235-289
EXTRA LARGE	229-299	EXTRA LARGE	215-249
LARGE	199-219	LARGE	195-239
MEDIUM	179-199	MEDIUM	175-189

**NATIONAL RETAIL EGG PURCHASES REPORT** Cooperators estimate orders for the week ending January 03, 2003 will decrease by 12 percent. Present week purchases for the week ending December 27, 2002 were 289,431 cases which was 5 percent below the prior week and 7 percent below estimates.

	CARTONED	LOOSE	TOTAL
Cases purchased present week.....	244,173	45,258	289,431
% change from the prior week.....	-9	+19	-5

Comparison figures are compiled on a matched plant basis. Purchases and estimates by 16 cooperators; 30 dozen cases or equivalent.

**CENTRAL STATES BREAKING STOCK** Prices were unchanged. Offers continue fully adequate to ample for the limited demand. Existing inventories, regular commitments and company owned production easily satisfy most breaker needs. Buyers and sellers closely watching market conditions. Breaking schedules reduced for this week. Floor stocks fully adequate to ample. Trade sentiment cautiously steady to instances weak. PRICES PAID TO 11:00 AM, MATERIAL EXCHANGED, 30 DOZEN CASE EQUIVALENT, 48 LB. MINIMUM NET WEIGHT, DELIVERED TO BREAKERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
NEST RUN	30-32	30
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	16-21	
CENTRAL STATES AREA:		
AR,CO,IA,IL,IN,KS,LA,MI,MN,MO,NM,ND,NE,OH,OK,SD,TX,WI		

**SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN** Majority prices were unchanged to slightly lower when compared to a week earlier. Demand was mostly light to moderate for the adequate but reduced offerings. Processing plants were less than normal due to holiday schedules. Finished product supplies were about adequate and well cleared. The undertone was generally steady. HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP)\* FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 30-DEC-02.

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	6-9.5 CENTS/LB.	8-8.5	8.07
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT		
FOB PLANT	TOO FEW TO REPORT		
* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.			

**SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN** Prices were unchanged to slightly lower compared to the past week. Demand was light to moderate for fully adequate offerings. Schedules were sufficient to cover a slow post -holiday call for finished product. Trade sentiment was about steady. HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP)\* FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 30-DEC-02.

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	6.25-11.5 CENTS/LB.	7.75-8.5	8.18
*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.			

# WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY REPORT-AM DEC 30, 2002

STOCKS ON HAND AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING 1/ 2/  
(30 DOZEN CASES-IN THOUSANDS)

		NO	SO	SO	5-Area	
	Northeast	CENT	CENT	Atl	Pacific	
Jumbo	Curr Wk	6.1	16.4	5.9	12.8	54.0
	Change	-0.6	-2.5	-0.4	0.1	-8%
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	18.2	52.9	14.2	18.5	133.9
	Change	1.4	-9.4	0.9	-0.6	-5%
Large	Curr Wk	31.9	119.3	64.1	70.5	374.4
	Change	1.9	5.6	10.8	-5.0	5%
Medium	Curr Wk	14.5	42.9	18.6	20.8	122.6
	Change	4.4	5.1	-2.5	2.6	7%
Small	Curr Wk	3.5	8.8	4.7	6.0	29.3
	Change	0.7	-0.1	1.8	2.2	26%
Misc	Curr Wk	8.3	21.9	7.5	18.9	65.1
	Change	3.1	0.3	-1.1	3.5	13%
Ungraded	Curr Wk	17.5	69.8	26.4	26.8	173.9
	Change	1.2	34.5	-4.4	12.2	30%
Total	Curr Wk	100.0	332.0	141.4	174.3	953.2
Percent	Change	14%	11%	4%	9%	8%

TOTAL	Number of Cases	Percent Change	Number of Cooperators
Shell Egg	953.2	8%	175
Shell Egg Breaking Stock 2/	328.0	20%	38
Total Shell Egg	1281.2	11%	213

1/Information is supplied by a universe of 175 cooperators who normally have stocks on hand each Monday A.M. and is on the basis of matched plants reporting in both the current and previous weeks. Sample does not represent total U.S. inventory but includes eggs packed for export when in cooperator's coolers.

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No valid comparison can be made with year ago or previous months' figures due to changes in number of plants surveyed, holidays falling in different weeks or changes in size of plant operations.

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**CANDIAN EGGS NOT AVAILABLE**

**TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES** — DAILY WTD AVERAGE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR DECEMBER 27, 2002

CURRENT LOADS								FUTURE LOADS				TOTAL LOADS			
36.75								16.25				53.00			
CLASS	ORG	SE DST	NE ORG	DST	MW ORG	DST	LOADS	CLASS	ORG	SC DST	NW ORG	DST	SW ORG	DST	LOADS
GNR W 1	41.00	—	41.00	42.50	—	—	7.00	GL W XL	—	—	—	—	—	51.80	5.00
GNR W 3	—	—	—	34.00	30.00	—	1.00	GL W LG	—	—	—	—	—	48.45	11.75
GL W XL	—	—	54.00	55.00	43.27	—	9.25	GL W MD	—	—	—	—	—	42.29	7.00
GL W LG	—	—	—	—	38.85	—	13.75								
GL W MD	—	—	37.00	39.00	33.00	—	9.00								
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	—	30.29	31.71	13.00								

**TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES** — WEEKLY (5-DAY) WTD AVE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR 12/21-12/27/02

CURRENT LOADS								FUTURE LOADS				TOTAL LOADS			
94.50								63.00				157.50			
CLASS	ORG	SE DST	NE ORG	DST	MW ORG	DST	LOADS	CLASS	ORG	SC DST	NW ORG	DST	SW ORG	DST	LOADS
GNR W 1	42.33	46.90	40.75	43.00	—	—	19.00	GNR W XL	32.00	35.50	—	—	—	—	2.00
GNR W 2	—	42.00	—	—	—	—	1.00	GNR W 1	—	46.00	—	—	—	—	3.00
GNR W 3	—	—	—	34.00	30.00	—	1.00	GNR W 2	—	44.00	—	—	—	—	1.00
GNR BR 1	—	—	77.50	79.00	—	—	1.50	GNR BR 1	101.00	—	—	111.00	—	—	1.00
GL W J	—	—	—	—	43.00	—	1.00	GL W J	—	—	—	—	—	54.00	1.00
GL W XL	—	53.00	55.25	54.79	41.68	—	42.00	GL W XL	42.00	47.00	—	—	—	50.03	17.25
GL W LG	—	53.14	37.00	50.20	37.79	—	45.25	GL W LG	—	53.24	—	—	56.00	48.06	31.50
GL W MD	—	—	35.50	37.00	32.80	30.00	20.00	GL W MD	30.33	35.00	—	—	—	40.17	15.50
GL W SM	—	—	28.00	29.25	—	—	2.00								
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	—	30.29	31.04	41.00								
NRBS - 39	—	—	—	—	—	20.50	2.00								

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES ARE LISTED FOR VARIOUS CLASSES PRICED BY ORIGIN AND/OR DESTINATION FOR 6 REGIONS. THE LOADS COLUMN REFLECTS TOTAL LOADS REPORTED AND INCLUDES LOADS WITH PRICES TO BE DETERMINED LATER. NRBS CATEGORIES REPRESENT NET WEIGHT - MATERIAL MAY OR MAY NOT BE INCLUDED.

**\*\*\*NOTICE\*\*\***

THE NUMBER OF CASES OF EGGS SHIPPED TO CALIFORNIA REPORT  
IS NOT AVAILABLE AT TIME OF PUBLICATION

**NEW ENGLAND**

PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS, CASES EXCHANGED, GRADE YIELD BASIS, BROWN EGGS LOOSE, AT FARM, CENTS PER DOZEN.

JUMBO	EX-LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
122-125	98-101	89-92	56-59	25-28

**DETROIT EGGS**

PRICES TO FIRST RECEIVERS, CASES INCLUDED, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, 30 DOZEN CASES, WHITE EGGS LOOSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

JUMBO	EX-LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
61-71	55-58	52-57	39-43	31-35

**IOWA-MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN**

PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
36-40	21-25	11-15

**COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT-FROZEN EGGS** (In Thousands)

ON HAND	12/23/02	12/16/02	12/24/01
PACIFIC COAST	431	124	237
LOS ANGELES	370	82	190

**HONOLULU, OAHU-WHITE SHELL EGGS**

Receipts from the mainland: 12/15/02-12/21/02  
30-dozen case 8,519

Receipts from the mainland: 12/8/02-12/14/02  
30-dozen case 7,282

**NORTH CAROLINA EGGS**

PRICES WEIGHTED AVERAGE, IN SMALL LOTS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, NEARBY RETAIL OUTLET, CENTS PER DOZEN.

EX-LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
81.27	79.27	64.27	53.27

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